



U.S. Department
of Transportation
Pipeline and Hazardous
Materials Safety
Administration

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

August 27, 2020

Mr. Kenneth W. Grubb
Chief Operating Officer
Kinder Morgan Natural Gas Division
1001 Louisiana Street, Suite 1000
Houston, Texas 77002

**Re: Docket No. PHMSA-RSPA-2000-8453
Special Permit Renewal from May 15, 2020 to May 15, 2025**

Dear Mr. Grubb:

On November 12, 2019, pursuant to 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 190.341, the Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company (TGP) applied to the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) for the renewal of the special permit, PHMSA-RSPA-2000-8453, originally issued on March 16, 2001, renewed on May 15, 2015, and expiring on May 15, 2020. On May 10, 2017, TGP applied to PHMSA for an extension of an existing segment covered by the special permit. The existing special permit waives compliance with 49 CFR § 192.611 for four (4) pipeline segments where the class locations have changed from a Class 1 to a Class 3 location.

The four (4) special permit segments consist of approximately 2.115 miles of 30-inch diameter Line 800-1, 2.102 miles of 30-inch diameter Line 500-1, 2.143 miles of 36-inch diameter Line 500-2, and 0.786 miles of 36-inch diameter Line 500-3. The special permit segments are located in Hickman and Dickson Counties, Tennessee. The special permit allows TGP to continue operation of the original Class 1 pipe in Class 3 locations, subject to the conditions set forth in the special permit.

On March 27, 2020, PHMSA published a Federal Register notice (85 FR 17377) announcing the special permit renewal request. The special permit renewal request letter and all other pertinent documents are available for review in Docket No. PHMSA-RSPA-2000-8453 in the Federal Docket Management System located at www.regulations.gov.

PHMSA received two (2) public (anonymous) comments¹ during the 30-day comment period. The first comment was submitted on March 30, 2020, recommending that PHMSA not issue the permit and enact the New Green Deal. The second comment was submitted on April 27, 2020, stating concerns for “COVID-19”. The commenters did not provide a rationale to PHMSA for denying the renewal of the existing special permit. The special permit conditions are designed to protect the public and the environment on the special permit segments.

PHMSA has reviewed all operational and maintenance data submitted by TGP for the special permit segments. PHMSA finds that there has been no material change in conditions and that TGP continues to meet the terms of the special permit. Based on the information provided by TGP, PHMSA has determined that renewal of the special permit would not be inconsistent with pipeline safety. PHMSA approves the extension of Special Permit Segment 3 by 200 feet. Also, PHMSA is modifying the reporting contacts for this special permit in Limitation 7. The modifications to Special Permit Segment 3 and to Limitation 7 are *italicized* and underlined below.

Special Permit Segment 3: 36-inch Line 500-2, MLV 559-2 from Station (Sta.) 544+95 to Sta. 658+10, 11,315 feet, located between approximate Mile Post (M.P.) 10.32 to M.P. 12.46 in Dickson and Hickman Counties, Tennessee, as shown on Drawing No. TO-T5-500-2-162, dated 01/07/2014.

Limitation 7: PHMSA grants this special permit for a period of no more than five (5) years from the grant date. If TGP elects to seek renewal of this special permit, a renewal request must be submitted at least 180 days prior to expiration of the five-year period, to the PHMSA Associate Administrator, with copies to the Director, Division of Engineering and Research, and Director, Office of Pipeline Safety, Southern Region. PHMSA may seek additional information from TGP prior to granting a request for a special permit renewal.

Accordingly, pursuant to 49 CFR § 190.341, by this Order, and as outlined in the existing special permit, PHMSA grants the renewal of Special Permit PHMSA-RSPA-2000-8453, from May 15, 2020, through May 15, 2025, to TGP to continue its operation of the four (4) pipeline segments located in Hickman and Dickson Counties, Tennessee. This special permit renewal Order continues to waive compliance with certain Federal regulations in 49 CFR § 192.611.

My staff would be pleased to discuss this special permit or any other regulatory matter with you. Senth White, Director of Engineering and Research Division, may be contacted at 202-366-2415, for technical matters; and James Urisko, Director, Office of Pipeline Safety, PHMSA

¹ <https://www.regulations.gov/searchResults?rpp=50&so=DESC&sb=postedDate&po=0&s=PHMSA-RSPA-2000-8453>.

Southern Region may be contacted at 404-832-1150, for operational matters specific to this special permit.

Sincerely,

ALAN KRAMER MAYBERRY
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Alan K. Mayberry,
Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety